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CONTENTS	PAGE
■ Canterbury Names Commission on Women in Episcopate (88185)	2
■ Conference on Women in the Episcopate Announced (88186)	5
■ Wolfrum Appointed Interim Bishop of Navajoland (88187)	7
■ [FEATURE] Exultation in Navajoland (88188)	8
■ [FEATURE] Philippine Church Faces the Future (88189)	10
■ Christian Vocation Is Theme Of Episcopal Student Gathering (88190)	13
■ Jean Aubrey Dementi's Life Celebrated (88191)	15
■ Maryland's \$8 Million Program for Renewal in Place (88192)	17
■ National Cursillo Seminar to Meet (88193)	19
■ Briefs (88194)	21
■ Notes to Editors (88195)	28



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Canterbury Names Commission on Women in Episcopate DPS 88185

NEW YORK (DPS, Sept. 15) -- The Archbishop of Canterbury, Robert Runcie, has announced the establishment of the Commission on Communion and Women in the Episcopate, which was requested by the 1988 Lambeth Conference, and he has named the members of the Commission. The Commission has been asked to begin work immediately. Their first meeting will be held in London in November.

The task of the Commission will be to examine the relations between the Provinces of the Anglican Communion in the light of the possible ordination of women to the episcopate. The Commission was appointed by the Archbishop in consultation with the Primates of the Anglican Communion.

Members of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Commission on the Ordination of Women to the Episcopate are:

The Most Rev. Robert H. A. Eames (Chairman), Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland;

The Most Rev. Joseph A. Adetiloye, Metropolitan and Primate of All Nigeria and Bishop of Lagos;

The Most Rev. Peter F. Carnley, Archbishop of Perth and Metropolitan of the Province of Western Australia;

The Rt. Rev. Mark Dyer, Bishop of Bethlehem (U.S.A.), Vice-Chairman of the Dogmatic and Pastoral Concerns Section at the Lambeth Conference;

The Rt. Rev. David M. Hope, Bishop of Wakefield (England);

The Rev. Dr. E. James Reed, Director of the Toronto School of Theology, University of Toronto, Anglican Church of Canada;

Dr. Mary E. Tanner, Theological Secretary, Board for Mission and Unity of the Church of England, Member of ARCIC, and Vice-Moderator of the Faith and Order Commission of the WCC.

DPS 88185/2

Commission secretaries are:

The Rev. Canon Christopher Hill, Archbishop of Canterbury's Secretary for Ecumenical Affairs, and the Rt. Rev. Michael Nazir-Ali, Coordinator of Studies for the Lambeth Conference 1988.

The Lambeth Conference resolution calls for the 27 autonomous Anglican provinces to respect decisions by other provinces on the ordaining and consecrating of women "without such respect necessarily indicating acceptance of the principles involved, maintaining the highest possible degree of Communion with the Provinces which differ."

The resolution passed by a vote of 423 for, 28 against, and 19 abstaining.

It also requests the Archbishop, in consultation with the Primates, to appoint a commission:

- a) to provide for an examination of the relationships between Provinces of the Anglican Communion and ensure that the process of reception includes continuing consultation with other Churches as well;
- b) to monitor and encourage the process of consultation within the Communion and offer further pastoral guidelines.

In a press conference at the Church of Ireland Cathedral in Armagh on September 12, Archbishop Eames said: "We will not only be involved in examining guidelines for the autonomous provinces if and when a woman is consecrated as bishop, but we will need to give a great deal of thought to the effect of such an event on the relationship of one province to another and to what this will mean in our relations to other churches....Much more will be involved than the question of a woman bishop....Communion within Anglicanism involves questions of authority, consultation, and understanding....The Lambeth Conference indicated a great desire for communion between Anglican provinces to be maintained and improved....I hope that the work of this international commission will be regarded by the world church as

DPS 88185/3

a genuine attempt to build on bonds of affection -- something which will strengthen the ties between the autonomous provinces."

STATEMENT FROM THE PRESIDING BISHOP
ON THE COMMISSION ON COMMUNION AND WOMEN

September 12, 1988

I am pleased that the Archbishop of Canterbury acted so quickly in bringing the commission into being. Their task is vital, and not uncomplicated, so a November beginning is timely.

I recommended the appointment of the Rt. Rev. Mark Dyer, because I know that he will bring to that role both his considerable theological insights and his understanding of the gifts of ordained women.

It is appropriate that a woman be part of the membership, and Mary Tanner's thoughtful presentation at Lambeth is an indication of the contribution she can make. Further, Dr. Runcie intends that ordained women serve as consultants; I believe they will be an invaluable part of the mix.

I hope that the commission will meet at some point in a province having ordained women. Being in that context would add a critical dimension to their deliberations. I certainly would welcome such a gathering in this province.

Edmond L. Browning

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Conference on Women in the Episcopate Announced DPS 88186

NEW YORK (DPS, Sep. 15) -- A Conference on Women in the Episcopate will be held on October 27 at St. Margaret's Church, 1820 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC.

The Conference, sponsored by the Episcopal Women's Caucus, will provide an opportunity for participants to meet with Presiding Bishop Edmond L. Browning and other leaders involved in the General Convention of the Episcopal Church held in Detroit, Mich., in July. Deputies and bishops approved a resolution providing for a process of dialogue between bishops and congregations that disagree on the matter of ordaining women.

Women in the Episcopal Church have been ordained since 1974, but a woman has not yet been elected bishop. In recent months, six women have been official candidates, and numerous women have been nominated from the floor, indicating that the election of a woman in the near future is likely. Anticipation of this action, and opposition to it by some members of the Church led to the controversial "Episcopal Visitors" resolution at General Convention. The resolution makes provisions for both supporters and opponents of the ordination of women who differ with their diocesan bishop to ask their bishop to request the appointment of a visiting bishop to perform episcopal acts in their congregation.

A series of panels and open discussion will enable Conference participants to explore the General Convention resolution, examine other actions of the Church related to the ordination of women, and reflect on the processes which produced these actions. They will also discuss an "Episcopal Visitors" implementation plan and the future direction they feel needs to be taken by the Church in order to fully incorporate women.

The Conference will be set in the context of the annual meeting of the Episcopal Women's Caucus, which will begin on October 26 at 6:00 pm and conclude the morning of October 27.

DPS 88186/2

Friday morning's agenda will include reports from the Lambeth Conference of Anglican bishops and the election of new Board members.

Registration for the Conference is \$75 (\$50 for Episcopal Women's Caucus members). For further information or to register contact: Ms Kathie Ragsdale, 5564 North Morgan St., #301, Alexandria, VA. 22312; (202) 544-8636 or (703) 256-3402.

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Wolfrum Appointed Interim Bishop of Navajoland DPS 88187

NEW YORK (DPS, Sep. 15) -- Presiding Bishop Edmond L. Browning has appointed Bishop William H. Wolfrum, Suffragan of Colorado, as Interim Bishop of Navajoland. He will serve in this capacity until the House of Bishops affirms the Navajos' choice for Bishop of Navajoland at the bishops' annual meeting in September 1989.

The appointment was necessitated by the death last May of Bishop Wesley Frensdorff, who had been Interim Bishop since 1983.

In July of this year, the General Convention of the Episcopal Church granted the Navajoland Area Mission further self-determination by permitting the election of a Diocesan Bishop of its own [see separate story].

Wolfrum will continue as Suffragan of Colorado during his tenure in Navajoland, just as Frensdorff had served simultaneously as Assistant Bishop of Arizona.

Before making his appointment, the Presiding Bishop consulted with the Navajoland Standing Committee, and it is reported that Wolfrum was at the top of its list of preferences. Sources say that Wolfrum met with the dozen-member Navajo delegation at General Convention prior to accepting the appointment to warn of his schedule limitations should he be appointed. In addition to commitments in his own diocese, he is president of Province VI. But, the sources say, so much good humor began to fly between the Navajo group and the tall relaxed Coloradan that mutual acceptance and understanding became inevitable.

Among his duties in Colorado, Wolfrum has had oversight of the Living Waters Indian congregation in Denver.

The Navajoland Area Mission, which was organized in 1977, is comprised of the Navajo reservation.

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[FEATURE] Exultation in Navajoland

DPS 88188

NEW YORK (DPS, Sep. 15) -- "Praise God. Praise God. They passed it," quietly exclaimed Catherine Plummer of Navajoland Area Mission. She was both laughing and crying.

It was mid-morning of the last day of the 69th General Convention in Detroit and the House of Deputies had almost unanimously concurred with House of Bishops' Resolution B-003 to permit the Navajos self-determination in nomination of their future bishop.

Cathy had walked beside her husband, the Rev. Steven Plummer, from the Navajoland enclosure to the microphone on the floor of the House and stood behind him. The Presiding Elder ("Adah Sedahi") of the Episcopal Church in Navajoland addressed the House in praise and thanksgiving.

Fellow American Indians, deputies from distant dioceses, had stood ready at all eight microphones of the convention hall to support the Navajo proposal, which had been painstakingly developed over a period of 18-months by the people of Navajoland, and championed by the late Wes Frensdorff, Interim Bishop for the Navajos. The Chair had recognized two Indian deputies, Philip Allen and Kesley Edmo. Then, support had come from a far-away place when Diana Dillenberger-Frade, a deputy from Honduras, spoke eloquently of the growth of the Church in her country following the coming of a bishop.

It had been a long wait and the Navajo representatives, with voice but no vote, had sat silently for nine days at a specially designated two-person table to the far right of the speaker's platform and at the far edge of the convention floor. For the better part of a week, a barrier blocked Navajo access to the Convention floor, but Tom Van Culin, a person of native Hawaiian ancestry, worked with the Dispatch of Business Committee and quietly managed to have the iron-pipe barrier removed.

The Structure Committee of the House of Bishops had struggled through prolonged and heated hearings before coming to agreement.

DPS 88188/2

Strong voices supported the Navajo proposal while other strong voices expressed concern about risk and precedent. Among spokespersons to voice support for the Navajo position was Dee Frensdorff, widow of the dynamic bishop who had died less than two months before in a plane crash.

But, at last, the Convention had voted to enable an indigenous people to take reins, and the comely 44-year old Navajo priest of mahogany hue leaned with his wife across the iron pipe to embrace well-wishers in the visitor's gallery. We were American Indian staff and the retired Bishop of Navajoland, Frederick Putnam. A half dozen fellow American Indian deputies were drawn to us in the Navajo corner of the convention hall. The Plummers--and all of us circled together in joy and thanksgiving at that moment--felt a strong unseen presence. And in that circle was a joyful Wesley Frensdorff. --Owanah Anderson, Native American Ministries Staff Officer, Episcopal Church Center.

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[FEATURE] Philippine Church Faces the Future

DPS 88189

NEW YORK (DPS, Sep. 15) -- "The Philippine Episcopal Church [PEC] will be going through a period of great change in the next five or ten years as a result of autonomy," says Danny Ocampo, the PEC's national development officer. "But," he adds, "we cannot live in the old ways. We cannot be too financially dependent on the American Church and the life style that goes with it."

At present, about 80 percent of the Philippine Church structure is supported by Episcopal Church money. The PEC will become autonomous in 1990, or before, as a result of actions taken by the General Convention this year in Detroit.

Ocampo is referring to a church facing independence and dependence at the same time, but he is optimistic and sees an important challenge unfolding.

"We have to look at our mission seriously, and tailor it the realities. The communities in which the PEC serves tend to be poor. The transformation [to autonomy] will have to involve a new attitude. Greater stress must be given to self-reliance and local people.

"Yet," he concludes, "the future of the PEC is bright. The changes will result in a more dynamic church."

The same may not be said of the Philippines itself.

"The changes we expected after the ascendancy of Aquino have not happened," says Laura Ocampo, National Program Coordinator of the PEC Episcopal Church Women specializing in development, and wife of Danny. "In some ways, they have become worse, especially in lower sections of society.

"Military activity has increased. The President says that no military abuses have occurred, but one would expect her to acknowledge the killings of the farmers who were demonstrating in January 1987.

DPS 88189/2

"In the summer of last year, a village was strafed by military units. Survivors were interviewed to verify this, but Aquino said it was a pack of lies."

Both Ocampos are singularly qualified to speak of the future of the PEC in the context of their national life.

In 1975, while working with labor and church groups, Danny was arrested by Marcos forces and charged with subversion. He was detained without trial for three years and four months in the infamous Camp Crame in Quezon City, as well as in two other prisons, and every day Laura visited him after work. At the time of his arrest she was pregnant with their first child. Through the intervention of Senator Jovito Salonga, now the President of the Senate, Danny finally won his release, and a short time later he was received into the PEC by Bishop Manuel Lumpias.

He worked at the National Council of Churches for a year, coordinating an ecumenical human rights conference with his wife, and after further schooling and four years as a researcher with a socio-economic think tank, IBON, he came to his present position with the Episcopal Church. That was in 1984.

Laura, as a result of her commitment to working for human rights, fared little better. She had already had years of experience with the YWCA of Manila, the National Council of Churches--in the mid-1970's she was the first woman vice-chair of the National Council--when in 1980 she launched the human rights desk at the Council. In 1982, she was arrested by the police, along with 22 others, and charged as a "Communist terrorist". Her name was published in the newspaper, and she languished in the same Camp Crame that she had visited with her infant son only five years earlier. This time, however, the Ocampos has two children, and it was Danny who visited the prison each day. Her release came through the effort of church groups and Amnesty International. She has been in her present position since 1985.

On a recent visit to the United States as guests of the

DPS 88189/3

Church, the Ocampos spoke about their unique marriage--and their unique country--in a DPS interview.

The issue of independence versus dependence is a focal point of discussion throughout the PEC as autonomy approaches and as the economic and political atmosphere in the Philippines worsens. There is much agreement that the Church's role as a fortress of hope and enabler of change increases as the country's situation deteriorates. And the Ocampos--with their strong spiritual and human rights backgrounds--serve as a central bridge between the two.

Danny and Laura Ocampo--parents, husband and wife, church co-workers, and ex-political prisoners--hold between them a great deal that the Church stands for whether in the Philippines or elsewhere.

Their plea to fellow Episcopalians in the United States is to become aware that the U.S. is "fanning the flames of insurgency" in the Philippines by promoting military solutions to social and political--and spiritual--problems. There is an inaccurate impression, say the Ocampos, that their country is on the rise now the Ferdinand Marcos is gone.

Yet, says Laura, "since Aquino has come to power, leaders of cause-oriented organizations have been assassinated, including people we know...and those parts of society that the PEC ministers to--the poor and disenfranchised--are neglected by the government because they retain their old ways."

"In this context," she says softly but with assurance, "the future of our country is dim."

PHOTO CAPTION

Danny and Laura Ocampo of the Philippine Episcopal Church.

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Christian Vocation Is Theme Of Episcopal Student Gathering DPS 88190

NEW YORK, (DPS, Sep. 15) -- Four hundred Episcopal college students and chaplains will wrestle with the topic of Christian vocation in the modern world at a National Gathering of Students, December 28, 1988 - January 1, 1989 at the YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, Colorado.

"Provocation," the conference theme, focuses on practical issues of career development and the prophetic call for Christians to be "provocative" in challenging injustice, apathy and the lack of spiritual values in society.

Participants will hear Richard Bolles, author of the widely-used career development manual, What Color is Your Parachute, and an Episcopal priest, who has devoted the major part of his ministry to career development consultation. Bolles helps people clarify their values and develop strategies to put those values into action.

Dr. Alda Marsh Morgan, the second keynoter, will speak from her wide experience as a "lay minister in the Church and in the world." Current director of Leaven, a ministry to faculty at the University of California and lecturer at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific, Morgan has been deeply involved in the struggle for women's ordination in the Church, without choosing to go into the priesthood herself.

The twist of having an ordained priest speak about careers for laypersons and a layperson speak about ministry, is in line with "Provocation's" double message theme.

"We want to challenge students to think of both career and ministry in at least two ways," explains Thomas Chu, a Columbia University student and member of the conference planning committee. "Christians are faced with the practicalities of career choices, and so the conference is pro vocation. All of us are called to be ministers of Christ, ordained or not."

DPS 88190/2

The Rev. Linda Strohmer, chaplain at Lehigh University, will serve as chaplain for the gathering. Of Delaware Indian descent, Strohmer will bring her devotion to the presence of Christ in the world and her insights about the neglected wisdom of native traditions to her daily meditations.

Daily life will be rooted in the Prayer Book pattern of daily prayer and Holy Communion, culminating in a special New Year's Eve Vigil Eucharist. Student-led discussion groups and twenty-five workshops will investigate topics including sexual behavior, political "hot spots", the Scriptural basis of vocation, methods of meditation and prayer, encountering other faiths and "new age" ideas, the plight of the homeless, and how to share Christian faith with others.

Recreational facilities at Estes Park include a heated pool, cross-country skiing, basketball courts, roller skating and hiking.

"Provocation" is sponsored by the Ministry in Higher Education office at the Episcopal Church Center. The cost is \$165 per person, with accommodation in dormitory-style rooms. Group buses are planned from some major regional centers. Students are encouraged to contact their local Episcopal chaplain or diocesan/provincial agency for possible financial aid. Registration forms are available from the Rev. E. Nathaniel Porter, Coordinator, Ministry in Higher Education, 815 Second Ave., New York, NY 10017. Tel: 1-800-334-7626 or 1-800-321-2231 (N.Y. State).

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Jean Aubrey Dementi's Life Celebrated

DPS 88191

FAIRBANKS, Alaska (DPS, Sep. 15) -- A Requiem Eucharist for the Rev. Jean Aubrey Dementi, who spent 37 years in Alaska as nurse, missionary, and priest for the Episcopal Church, was held Monday, July 25 at Sacred Heart Cathedral, here. Bishop David R. Cochran, retired bishop of Alaska was the celebrant.

The Rev. Mrs. Dementi, 68, died May 22 at the Pioneers Home.

Born October 17, 1919 in Santa Barbara, Calif., Dementi grew up in the Southern California area. She graduated from the Bishop Johnson College of Nursing in Los Angeles, and received a bachelor of science degree in public health from UCLA. While in school and following graduation she worked as a visiting public health nurse.

In 1951, Dementi came to Alaska and began work as an appointed medical missionary for the Episcopal Church. Her first assignment was at St. Mark's Mission in Nenana, where the Church had a boarding school. From there she went to the Hudson Stuck Memorial Hospital in Fort Yukon, and then served as a nurse-evangelist at St. Luke's in Shageluk.

In Shageluk she met and married her husband of 29 years, Jim Dementi, an Athabascan. Their daughter, Beth, was born in 1960.

The Dementis moved to Anchorage in 1965, and there she worked for the borough health department as a public health nurse for four years.

Returning to fulltime church work in the late 1960s, Dementi and her family moved back to the Yukon River area and Christ Church in Anvik. With encouragement from Bishop William Gordon, she studied for the diaconate and was ordained deacon in 1972. Five years later, she became the first woman ordained priest in Alaska.

In 1978, she was called as the first vicar of St. Jude's, North Pole, and she served as editor of the Alaskan Epiphany, the diocesan publication. She took an active role in the Commission on

DPS 88191/2

Ministry, and continued to serve at North Pole until her retirement in 1985.

Diagnosed with liver cancer in 1982, Dementi chose to accept her illness and not let it dominate her ministry. Her words at the time were: "It has not affected my basic outlook on life; it has reinforced it. I have never believed that God sends us cancer or any of the other devastating things that happen. But, on the other hand, these things can help us grow."

Jean received an honorary doctor of humanities degree from the University of Alaska in 1983 and an honorary doctor of divinity degree from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in 1987. She was also a co-recipient of the William Spofford Award given by the Episcopal Church Publishing Co., presented to those making an outstanding contribution to the social mission of the church.

Perhaps the honor she most appreciated--and one that was to give her national celebrity--was the opportunity to meet Pope John Paul II in May 1984 during his historic visit to Fairbanks. While among a group of handicapped and severely ill people gathered to greet the Pope personally, she shook hands with him, and passed him a simple note: "Your Holiness: we women priests add a new dimension to our Lord's work." A photograph of the scene was widely published.

Jean is survived by her husband, daughter Beth Dementi Leonard, and a brother and sister.

In accordance with her wishes, memorial gifts may be made to the Fairbanks Pioneers Home.

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Maryland's \$8 Million Program for Renewal in Place DPS 88192

BALTIMORE, Md., (DPS, Sep. 15) -- The Diocese of Maryland has begun an \$8 million initiative, called CROSS+ROADS, to restore a sense of spiritual excitement and unity in the Diocese by 1992, the 300th anniversary of the Anglican Church in Maryland. 1992 is the 200th anniversary of the consecration of Thomas John Claggett, the first Bishop of Maryland and the first bishop consecrated on American soil.

A new Diocesan Center, which will bring the bishop's desk and the bishop's chair together in the same place for the first time, will be built with half the money. The other \$4 million will be allocated to the Bishop Claggett Center; endowed funds for congregational renewal and development, ordained ministry, lay ministry and social ministry; the Nehemiah Fund; and local ministry and mission initiatives.

The CROSS+ROADS programs will be developed so that the four priorities established by Bishop a Theodore Eastman--lay ministry, ordained ministry, social ministry and congregational development--will intertwine with the four commitments enunciated by the parishes: spiritual formation, Christian education, Christian outreach and evangelism. Each is a part of the whole, sustaining and nurturing each other.

Speaking of CROSS+ROADS recently, Eastman said, "As we press ahead to the time when the House of Bishops will gather on our doorstep in 1992 celebrating symbolically with the whole Church what God has wrought in us and through us from Claggett's day 'til now, and as the Church of Jesus Christ prepares to enter the third millennium of its history, let us allow that deep and magnificent Spirit of Unity that binds the Father with the Son in triune majesty to fill our lives. Let us engage in this revolutionary venture together, becoming partners, true partners, in our mission of proclaiming the good news of God's Kingdom."

DPS 88192/2

The Diocese of Maryland encompasses 123 parishes and missions in 4,688 square miles, and includes over 50,000 baptized members.

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National Cursillo Seminar to Meet

DPS 88193

NEW YORK, (DPS, Sep. 15) -- More than 200 cursillistas are expected to converge on the Waterbury, Conn., Sheraton Hotel, October 13-15, 1988, for the annual National Episcopal Cursillo Seminar (NECS) and annual meeting of the General Council.

The theme for this year is: "With a common purpose and a common mind," (Phil. 2:2 [JB]). Participants will be able to choose three out of ten workshops based on the recently published "The NEC Library"--a three ring binder containing a series of booklets and articles covering the essential aspects of the Cursillo Movement.

Presiding Bishop Edmond L. Browning, himself a cursillista, will preside at the closing Eucharist at 11 a.m. on Saturday, October 15th.

Registration for the event is \$110.00, which covers materials and meals, including the Thursday evening dinner, after which the Rt. Rev. Earl McArthur, Suffragan Bishop of West Texas, will be keynote speaker. The Seminar begins with a 1 p.m. Eucharist on Thursday, October 13th, at which the Rt. Rev. Arthur E. Walmsley, Bishop of Connecticut, will be the celebrant.

From its beginnings in the Roman Catholic Church in Mallorca, Spain in 1949, the Cursillo Movement spread into the U.S., many other countries throughout the world, and then into the Episcopal Church. Cursillo is an abbreviation of Cursillos de Cristiandad, a Spanish term meaning "a short course in Christian living."

As a movement of, and in, the Church, Cursillo's purpose is to stimulate and motivate Christians to live out their baptismal vows fully, linked with other like-minded Christians in bringing their family, church, work, and social environments to Christ.

This is accomplished by utilizing the three phases of the movement. The Pre-Cursillo is composed of many activities, all directed toward identifying both the environments to be penetrated by

DPS 88193/2

Christian witness and those Christians who have the potential to do this. On the Cursillo Weekend, whatever is fundamental to being a Christian is presented with the intention of assisting the participants to see that they have a ministry of witness and how that may be carried out.

The Post-Cursillo consists of a three-fold continuing support, system which includes brief weekly meetings of three to five persons (called a Group Reunion) and area gatherings of the groups (called an Ultreya, freely translated from the Spanish as "Persevere!"). These gatherings involve sharing, prayer, Scripture, and hearing someone witness to how he or she has been acting and speaking for, and in, Jesus recently, and planning how to carry out Christian witness. Personal spiritual direction is also a part of this support system.

Brochures, including a registration form, have been mailed to bishops, diocesan lay and spiritual directors and newspaper editors, as well as recent NECS participants. Others who wish to register may contact the Connecticut NECS '88 Coordinator: Alan Rogers, 98 Juniper Rd., Southington, CT 06489.

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BRIEFS

Lambeth Peace Pilgrimage Lost in the Shuffle

DPS 88194

NEW YORK (DPS, Sep. 15) -- Lost amidst the clamor over women bishops and authority in the Anglican Communion at this summer's Lambeth Conference was the quiet witness of the Lambeth Peace Pilgrimage. Sponsored by the Episcopal Peace Fellowship (Episcopal Church in the U.S.A.) and the Anglican Pacifist Fellowship (Church of England), the Peace Pilgrimage set off from Southwark Cathedral in London on Tuesday, July 12, and walked to Canterbury some 75 miles away via the route taken by Chaucer's pilgrims, the "Pilgrim's Way". Upon arrival at Canterbury Cathedral on the opening day of the Conference, July 17, statements on peace and justice were laid at the Shrine of St. Thomas of Canterbury. The oldest and youngest participants in the pilgrimage were Americans: Dr. Margaret Morgan Lawrence (the oldest) from the Diocese of New York and Jacynnda Williams (the youngest) from the Diocese of Pennsylvania.

Episcopal Church Tops Giving List

NEW YORK (DPS, Sep. 15) -- Of the nine Protestant churches selected by the National Council of Churches for its annual membership and financial contribution study, the Episcopal Church has shown the greatest increase in total contributions. In 1986, total giving to the Episcopal Church was up by 8.76 percent to \$1,134,455,479.

Also registering increases were American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A. (up 0.35 percent); American Lutheran Church (up 2.86 percent); Christian Church-Disciples of Christ (up 4.84 percent); Lutheran Church in America (up 5.98 percent); Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (up 6.85 percent); United Church of Christ (up 4.48 percent); and the United Methodist Church (up 5.55 percent). Of the nine churches selected, only the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) showed a decrease (11.88 percent).

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DPS 88194/2

The Rev. Ronald L. Reed, Stewardship Officer at Episcopal Church Center, says the figures represent the "growing effectiveness of a commitment to tithing by the lay and clerical leadership of the Church." At the same time, he cautions, "we still have to recognize that households generally are still giving only two percent of their income."

"Faith Alive" Manuals Translated Into Spanish

SEWANEE, Tenn. (DPS, Sep. 15) -- The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge/USA has announced that it is now translating the manuals to conduct Faith Alive parish renewal weekends into Spanish. A cooperative venture between SPCK/USA and Faith Alive, the materials will be ready for use in Spanish-speaking congregations by mid-1989. Faith Alive has been receiving requests for Spanish language materials for some time, says Faith Alive executive director Thomas Riley. Informal attempts have been made to translate some of these resources, but now, at the request of the Dioceses of Northern Mexico and Honduras, the job is being completed. Translations have been high on the agenda of the SPCK for nearly 300 years.

Verger's Guild Launched

NEW YORK (DPS, Sep. 15) -- The Church of England Guild of Vergers has given permission for its United States members to form its own branch of the Guild. The Verger's Guild of the Episcopal Church (VGEC) is now in process of organizing and finding and recruiting vergers from throughout the American Church.

Vergers lead and protect the procession in services of worship, and are lay assistants to the clergy of the parish. In the procession, the verger carries a verge (staff) that is the symbol of the verger's office. He or she may also assume the duties of the building manager or administrator, and sometimes can be found as the parish clerk. In the United States, the verger is often found in cathedrals and large parish churches, and may be known by various

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DPS 88194/3

other titles, such as precentor, sexton, or doorkeeper, though not all of these persons are necessarily vergers.

The new organization hopes to develop a fellowship and network of communications among members. Its purpose is to appreciate the spiritual nature and calling of the vocation and ministry of the verger in the Episcopal Church. All persons who are involved in such a ministry, whether fulltime, parttime, paid, or voluntary, are welcome to join.

For more information: William H. Gleason, Verger, St. George's Church, 4715 Harding Rd., Nashville, TN 37205.

Episcopal Group May Produce "Habits of the Heart"

NEW YORK (DPS, Sep. 15) -- The Jessie Ball DuPont Fund has awarded a \$375,000 matching grant to the Episcopal Radio-TV Foundation of Atlanta to produce a film version of Robert Bellah's Habits of the Heart, a book which many Christians consider to be the most insightful commentary on the state of American culture today. The book's subtitle, "Individualism and Commitment in American Life," raises important issues for the mission of the Church, it is widely thought. This is the largest grant the Foundation has ever been offered. Production of the film is contingent on the foundation raising funds to match the grant. Murray Lerner, director of the Oscar-winning documentary From Mao to Mozart: Isaac Stern in China, will direct Habits.

Call for Church Strategy on Family Education, Ministry

NEW YORK (DPS, Sep. 15) -- Three units at the Episcopal Church Center have announced a major conference, April 18-20, 1990, on family education and family ministry. The site is not yet selected.

Among the eight Mission Imperatives for the Church, as enunciated by the Presiding Bishop and Executive Council early in 1988, is a call to implement a church-wide strategy for family education and family ministry.

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DPS 88194/4

The Families 2000 conference in 1990 is an attempt to begin to develop such a strategy, and to produce resources for congregations and dioceses. In 1991, there will be a North American conference on families sponsored by the National Council of Churches, and it is the hope of the Episcopal Church Center sponsors that a team from the 1990 Episcopal conference can attend the ecumenical conference the following year and share with the other denominations a developing Episcopal plan on family education and family ministry.

The three sponsoring units at the Church Center are the offices of Education for Mission and Ministry, National Mission in Church and Society, and Women in Mission and Ministry. For more information about the Families 2000 project, write or call John Vogelsang, Marcia Newcombe, or Linda Grenz, of the three offices listed respectively, at 815 Second Ave., New York, NY 10017: tel.: 1-800-334-7626 or 1-800-321-2231 (N.Y. State).

Clergy Wives Invited to Meet in Alabama

NEW YORK (DPS, Sep. 15) -- The Office of Women in Mission and Ministry at the Episcopal Church Center and the Clergy Family Project of the Diocese of Alabama are sponsoring a Leadership Training event for clergy wives, October 20-24, 1988, at McDowell Camp and Conference Center, Nauvoo, Alabama. This is an innovative, five day training experience for the woman who wants to make a difference, whether it is with herself, her family, community, church, workplace or the world. The excitement and value of this program is the emphasis placed upon the development of a solid spiritual base, from which one can choose and enrich her ministry. All clergy wives are invited to attend. Camp McDowell is situated in a peaceful natural setting that is ideal for a Christian community. The total cost for double occupancy and all meals is \$102. Registrations may be made by calling Talma Delong at (205) 387-1806. Her address is Camp McDowell, Rt. 1, Nauvoo, AL 36689.

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Church Periodical Club Sunday Set for October

NEW YORK (DPS, Sep. 15) -- In a letter to all Episcopalians, Presiding Bishop Edmond L. Browning has set aside Sunday, October 2, as the special day of celebration and commendation for the centennial of the Church Periodical Club.

Citing the CPC's ministry of the printed word as being an active support for educational and evangelical programs throughout the world, touching the lives of millions, the Presiding Bishop invited the Church to give thanks for this ministry.

The day will be marked by special prayers, a Call to Service Litany, recollections of CPC projects in parishes and missions, processional banners, posters in parish halls, and by thanksgiving.

For over 100 years, the CPC has maintained a flow of Bibles, medical texts, agricultural manuals, books for seminarians and the clergy, and whatever has been needed or requested by church workers, missionaries, seafarers, and teachers in Africa, Asia, or the United States. In recent years, many requests have been for audio-visual materials, newspaper subscriptions, devotional materials for the homebound, and large-print materials.

All materials are donated free of charge. This is made possible by donations received on CPC Sunday, individual gifts and memberships, and diocesan and provincial donations.

The CPC office is located at Episcopal Church Center, 815 Second Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017; tel.: 1-800-334-7626 or (in N.Y. State) 1-800-321-2231.

New Officers Elected For Alcohol and Drug Coalition

NEW YORK (DPS, Sep. 15) -- The election of new officers was the highlight of a recent meeting of the Board of Directors of the National Episcopal Coalition on Alcohol and Drugs when it convened in Detroit during the General Convention. Elected by the Board to serve as president was Mary Bredenberg of Kirkwood, Mo. The Rev. Robert Cook of Wilmington, N.C., was chosen to serve as vice president. The

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DPS 88194/6

new secretary is Virginia King of Atlanta, Ga., and the Rev. Charles "Buck" Aiken from Richmond, Va., was reelected to serve as treasurer.

Faith Alive Leadership Elected

YORK, Pa. (DPS, Sep. 15) -- Faith Alive, a witnessing fellowship in the Episcopal Church, has elected Howard M. Tischler as chairman of the board.

Tischler, from Grosse Pointe Park, Mich., has served as treasurer of Faith Alive for five years. He succeeds Thomas Riley, who continues as executive director. Fred C. Gore, who founded Faith Alive in 1970, was reelected president. He is from Hockessin, Del.

Other officers elected were: Sally C. Sprague (Darien, Conn.), sr. vice president; K. Michael Smith (Madison, Ind.), vice president; the Rev. Robert L. Schwarz (Sayville, N.Y.), treasurer. Elmore Hudgens (Rutherfordton, N.C.) was reelected Secretary.

Tischler is an assistant vice president for operations for the Grand Trunk Western Railroad.

New Altar Guild Association Officers Installed

NEW YORK (DPS, Sep. 15) -- The new board of the National Altar Guild Association was elected and installed at the organization's triennial meeting, July 1-8, in Detroit. The new officers are: Nancy Grandfield (Diocese of California), president; Barbara Gent (Connecticut), 1st vice president; Nancy Kemp (Los Angeles), 2nd vice president; Barbara Wilson (Texas), secretary; Eileen Hardin (Arizona), treasurer; and Anne Whitcomb (North Carolina), chair of the nominating committee. Terms of office are for three years. Officiating at the installation service, which was held at the General Convention Worship Center in Cobo Hall, Detroit, was Presiding Bishop Edmond L. Browning.

Krumm Receives Ecumenism Award

NEW YORK (DPS, Sep. 15) -- At a dinner in Canterbury, England, on Aug. 11, retired Bishop John M. Krumm received the Patron of

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DPS 88194/7

Christian Unity Award of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

The Rev. Dr. Paul A. Crow, president of the Disciples' Council of Christian Unity, presented the award.

Crow paid tribute to Krumm for having "giving us a glimpse of what church unity is all about. We Disciples claim John Krumm not only because of what he has meant to the ecumenical movement but because we recognize that you can't be ecumenical unless you stand within your tradition, and he has always done that clearly and well."

Crow also noted that Krumm has understood well that "ultimate unity is God's gift, and he has been able to kindle that understanding in others."

Krumm served a six-year term as chair of the Standing Commission on Ecumenical Relations. During the years he served as Bishop of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe he attended various World Council of Churches committee meetings. Krumm was appointed to the position in Europe after his retirement as Bishop of Southern Ohio in 1980. He is now retired an Assistatn Bishop in Los Angeles.

Krumm continues to be an active supporter of the Consultation on Church Union, which he considers "the most promising" of the dialogues in which the Episcopal Church is engaged. In an interview held after the award presentation Krumm said that COCU offers some hope he does not see in the other major dialogues at present.

The author of several popular books on faith and Anglicanism, Krumm was in Canterbury to prepare for a book on the Lambeth Conference, Letters From Lambeth, soon to be published by Forward Movement.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

Correction

DPS 88195

In DPS 88155, (July 14, 1988) regarding authorization of Inclusive Language Liturgies by General Convention, the fifth paragraph (on perfecting draft rites and their availability) the word "refined" should be replaced by "revised", and the last sentence should be replace the following: "Beginning not late than Advent 1989, they will be authorized for use under the direction of the diocesan bishop for a period of two years."

New '800' Number

Episcopal Church Center now has a toll-free telephone number for callers in New York State: 1-800-321-2231.

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